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16 February 1959

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** All Division and Branch Chiefs, Economic Research Area, ORR

**FROM:** Chief, Economic Research Area

**SUBJECT:** Review of Proceedings of XXI Party Congress

1. This memorandum directs your attention to the need throughout the ERA for a detailed review on the branch, and in some cases the section level, of the proceedings of the XXI Party Congress. These proceedings differ from those of the past because the XXI Congress speeches reflect the increased role of the Communist Party in economic affairs and the regional basis of the intermediate level of economic administration. These two innovations in Soviet practice make it no longer possible for a branch to find most of the material relevant to its mission in a single speech by an official in a functional economic ministry. Instead, many of the speeches are area oriented and deal with all economic activities within an area, ranging in size from an individual city to the RSFSR. Persons with careers as party functionaries, moreover, dealt in detail and at length with specific industries at the XXI Party Congress.

2. As of 14 February, FBIS had published thirteen volumes of the proceedings, with at least two additional volumes apparently yet to be published. These volumes encompass both radio and newspaper coverage of the Congress. FBIS intends to make its coverage as complete as is possible from these two sources. Thus, when an alleged full text radio broadcast varies from newspaper coverage of the same broadcast, both versions are published by FBIS.

3. It is suggested that, in order to reflect the content of these proceedings in work currently underway, each branch obtain the complete FBIS coverage of the proceedings. These proceedings should then be reviewed in detail and in such a manner as to assure that all interests of the Branch are reflected in the reviewing procedure.

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